

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph on page 18, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 5 (A, B, C) shows reproductions of autoradiograms presenting the results of the RNase protection analysis of GILR mRNA expression in transfected clones, wherein in Fig. 5A there is shown in lanes 1, 2, transfected clones with empty pcDNA3 controls; lanes 3-8, transfected clones with GILR cDNA; lane 9, tRNA control; lane 10, undigested probe control; and Fig. 5B shows in lane 1, undigested probe control; lanes 2-4, transfected clones with empty pcDNA3 controls; lanes 5-7, transfected clones with GILR cDNA; lane 8, tRNA control. 20µg RNA was loaded on each lane. Fig. 5C shows schematically the construct in which the fragment that the antisense probe would protect upon single-strand specific RNase digestion.